

The WLTIE program awards women scholarships for a post-graduate degree in economic policy to encourage their participation and leadership in this field. The objectives are:

- **Leadership skills:** to provide participants with the leadership skills necessary to assume senior level positions at the forefront of economic policy making.
- **Academic Excellence and Competence:** to provide participants with a solid training in economics that is policy oriented, draws on experience already gained at their home country institutions, and prepares them to undertake senior level economic policy positions.
- **Foster networking opportunities:** program participants will have the opportunity to study with colleagues from their own country (other program participants) as well as students from the U.S. and other countries providing a vast network of fellow economists to draw upon in their careers.

This combination of academic, leadership, and networking skills will support a new generation of female economists who will lead economic policy making as well as serve as role models for future generations of women leaders.

Upon graduation, WLTIE women are required to return to their home countries and are expected to participate in the economic policy-making community.

This program was launched in 2009 with 31 women from eight developing countries entering a two-year U.S.-based Masters in Economics program.

WLTIE covers all costs for required visas, academic qualification test fees, tuition, books and other supplies, room, board and health insurance. There are no explicit funds for the family or children of selected participants, however, U.S. academic institutions often have provisions that can meet this need. Upon acceptance to the university, selected participant can contact the university for further assistance.

### Qualifications

- Female Nepali citizen;
- An undergraduate degree in economics or related field;
- English language proficiency;
- Computer proficiency; and
- Be employed, presently or previously in related field.

*USAID/Nepal will issue a notice through its website and local newspapers announcing training opportunities each year when they become available to solicit applications from interested candidates.*